

Amendments to and listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A footing comprising:

a first end, a second end and a longitudinal axis extending between said first and second ends,

an elongated channel having a longitudinal axis extending substantially parallel to and spaced from said longitudinal axis of said footing, said channel having a base and first and second sidewalls extending upwardly away from said base, said sidewalls extending from said base such that said first sidewall is free of being parallel with said second sidewall, ~~and~~

a slot extending within said footing, said slot having a longitudinal axis that extends at an angle to said longitudinal axis of said channel;

a passage for receiving an anchoring rod, said passage extending at an acute angle with respect to a base of said footing, through the base of said footing to one of said sidewalls to the base.

2. (Original) The footing of claim 1 wherein said slot has a base extending in a horizontal plane occupied by said base of said channel.

3. (Original) The footing of claim 1 wherein said slot extends substantially perpendicular to said channel.

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4. (Currently Amended) The footing of claim 1 wherein said footing includes first and second outer sidewalls that extend at an angle from an upper surface of said footing to a the base of said footing.

5. (Original) The footing of claim 4 wherein said longitudinal axis of said footing is equally spaced from said first and second outer sidewalls of said footing; and wherein said longitudinal axis of said channel is spaced closer to said first outer sidewall than to said second outer sidewall.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The footing of claim 6 1 wherein said passage has an opening extending along an outer surface of said first outer sidewall and an opening extending along said base.

8. (Original) The footing of claim 1 wherein at least one of said ends of said footing has a substantially trapezoidal shaped cross section.

9. (Original) The footing of claim 1 wherein said slot is sized to receive a wedge.

10. (Original) The footing of claim 1 wherein said channel is sized to receive a portion of a support stand base and a portion of a skirting panel.

11. (Currently Amended) A footing for use in supporting a building, said footing comprising:

a first end, a second end and a longitudinal axis extending between said first and second ends, said longitudinal axis being equally spaced from first and second outer sidewalls of said footing, ~~and~~

an elongated channel having a central longitudinal axis extending between said first and second ends, said central longitudinal axis of said channel being offset from said longitudinal center of said footing; and

a passage for receiving an anchoring rod, said passage extending at an acute angle with respect to a base of said footing, through a portion of said footing from an outer surface of one of said sidewalls to the base.

12. (Currently Amended) The footing of claim 11 wherein said first and second outer sidewalls extend at an angle from an upper surface of said footing to ~~a~~ the base of said footing.

13. (Original) The footing of claim 11 wherein said longitudinal axis of said channel is spaced closer to said first outer sidewall than to said second outer sidewall.

14. (Cancelled)

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15. (Currently Amended) The footing of claim ~~14~~ 11 wherein said passage has an opening extending along an outer surface of said first outer sidewall and an opening extending along said base.

16. (Original) The footing of claim 11 wherein at least one of said ends of said footing has a substantially trapezoidal shaped cross section.

17. (Original) The footing of claim 11 further comprising a slot extending within said footing, said slot having a longitudinal axis that extends substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis of said channel.

18. (Original) The footing of claim 17 wherein said slot has a base extending in a horizontal plane occupied by a base of said channel.

19. (Original) The footing of claim 11 wherein said channel includes a base and first and second sidewalls extending upwardly away from said base of said channel at angles to said base such that said sidewalls of said channel are not parallel.

20.-26 (Cancelled)